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Studienkolleg zu Berlin (Berlin Studies Centre)

A programme for future European leaders
in the fields of science, business, politics, culture
and administration

An initiative of the German National
Academic Foundation and The Hertie Foundation



Programme objectives and outline The Studienkolleg zu Berlin offers excellent students important knowledge about the objectives and values of Europe in preparation for their future duties and responsibilities in science, business, politics, culture, and administration. It enables participants to experience European diversity and provides them with an opportunity to explore their own questions – beyond the borders of academic disciplines and the different European countries.

With this objective, the Studienkolleg invites about 30 exceptionally gifted students of all disciplines from Germany and other European countries to spend a year in Berlin. Along with continuing their studies at one of the universities in Berlin or Brandenburg, the scholarship holders also take part in the Studienkolleg's accompanying programme. This programme's core module is a project on current issues relating to Europe on which teams of participants from different countries and disciplines cooperate during the entire academic year. The project work is supplemented by weekly evening events and by several seminars. For the foreign students a German class is provided. The Studienkolleg's language is German.

The Studienkolleg zu Berlin is a joint initiative of the German National Academic Foundation and The Hertie Foundation, in cooperation with the Berlin Institute for Advanced Study and the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities.



Structure Each year the Studienkolleg zu Berlin offers about 30 places. Up to 20 of these places are set aside for foreign European students. At least ten places are designated for scholarship holders of the Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes. The scholarship holders of the Studienkolleg zu Berlin are required to enrol and continue their studies at one of the universities in Berlin or Brandenburg for the duration of the academic year.

The Studienkolleg's programme starts at the end of September with an introductory week and ends in July of the next year with the ceremonial presentation of certificates. During term-time the scholarship holders meet once a week to attend lectures or discussions. In addition, seminars and training sessions about subjects such as project management, rhetoric, presentation and negotiation techniques take place.

The project teams are formed during the introductory week. The participants chose the topics themselves and work independently on their projects throughout the entire academic year. During the Easter break they leave Berlin to go on a research trip to another European country. The projects are presented to the public during the summer term and are then published. After the end of the academic year, the participants are invited to an annual alumni reunion. They can also stay in contact via the internet platform.



Funding

- monthly scholarship of 650 euros (regardless of financial background)
- one-time grant of about 400 euros to support the project work and travels
- for foreign scholarship holders: a one-time mobility grant of 1,000 euros
- the costs for the programme and the administration of the Studienkolleg are covered by the two supporting organisations
- during the academic year the participants are members of both supporting organisations and have access to their choice of lectures etc.; after the college year the participants become their alumni

Admission Requirements

- current academic student (of any discipline)
- completion of basic studies (at least two years of studies in one discipline)
- up to 28 years old
- excellent academic achievements
- strong interest in European issues
- ability to work in a team and willingness to do intensive project work
- commitment to social causes
- all candidates have to apply independently for a place at a university in Berlin or Brandenburg



For Foreign Candidates

- EU-citizenship; for citizens of other European countries exceptions are possible
- excellent knowledge of the German language as well as of one other European foreign language (spoken and written)
- application through nomination or independently is possible; in both cases two references by two academics are included in the application

For German Candidates

- must already be Studienstiftung scholars by the time of the application
- excellent knowledge of two foreign European languages (spoken and written)
- independent application; no references needed

The application form and more information can be found here: www.studienkolleg-zu-berlin.de

The best candidates will be invited to a selection weekend in spring in Berlin.

The closing date for applications is the 1st of April for the academic year which starts in the following September.



The Hertie Foundation

The non-profit Hertie Foundation carries on the life's work of Georg Karg, owner of the Hertie chain department store, who died in 1972. Besides being dedicated to his business and his employees, he was particularly devoted to the common good.

With assets to the order of approximately 800 million euros and an average annual sponsoring outlay of 20 to 25 million euros, the Hertie Foundation is one of the largest private foundations in Germany. Since 1998 it has been independent of the Hertie company.

The Hertie Foundation considers itself to be a reform body. Through research and project commitment in education at all levels (pre-school, school and university), the Foundation aims to seek out new, intelligent solutions and contribute to their effective implementation.



The Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes

The Studienstiftung (German National Academic Foundation) is, with more than 10,000 scholars, the largest and oldest German sponsorship organisation for the academically gifted. It is non-political and non-denominational.

The Studienstiftung promotes future excellence in the areas of science, business, public administration, and the arts. Through its sponsorship it promotes in-depth academic study, interdisciplinary dialogue, a cosmopolitan world view, and international experience.

The Studienstiftung is financially supported and subsidised by the Federal Government of Germany, the German Federal States and local authorities as well as by a large number of private donors. During its existence, it has sponsored more than 50,000 exceptionally gifted students and doctoral candidates. Each year, about 3,000 new scholars join the foundation.



Studienstiftung
des deutschen Volkes



Contact

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Gemeinnützige
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Studienstiftung
des deutschen Volkes


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AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN


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